

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Flag Salute: Director Otos called to order a regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m. on January 20, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom call. Director Otos led the board and gallery in the flag salute.

Roll Call of Members: Members present included Directors Otos, Ragusa, Samora, and Coffey. Director Cailloux was excused. A quorum was present. Superintendent Vivanco was present as were student representatives Rochelle and Grechishkin. Also, in attendance were many staff and public.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board set the regular and consent agendas.

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, items in the consent agenda were approved as follows:

Agreements

- Discovery Education; elementary level Social Studies curriculum

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/Termination
- Classified: Employment; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/Termination
- Extra/Co-Curricular Stipends and Supplemental Contracts
- Unfilled Certificated and Classified Positions

Public Comments

Public comments were received from five people:

- Madison Wolter on behalf of equity leads and equity lead facilitators: thanked the school board as part of Board Recognition month for the work they do and putting attention on racial equity.
- Ms. C. Kelly, teacher at MVHS: expressed her opinion that in-person learning should not resume until teachers are vaccinated and returning kids to school should not be rushed – doing so only when safe.
- Kelley Kirkpatrick, instructional assistant at Harriet Rowley and MVHS: expressed her opinion that she is against letting kids return until teachers are vaccinated. She would like to continue with remote learning.
- Taite Kirkpatrick, 8th grade student, said she is against resuming in-person learning until teachers are vaccinated
- Peri Kirkpatrick, former student: said she is against letting kids return to in-person learning until teachers are vaccinated.

Board Member Comments

- Director Ragusa shared she has visited some classrooms that are working well in the virtual environment. She shared that teachers Ms. Wolter and Ms. Morin create an environment that feels like they are with the students – and she know many teachers are doing the same. She

thanked the classrooms for allowing her to visit. She also shared that she, Director Otos and Superintendent Vivanco will soon be visiting with Senator Muzzall, Representative Gilday, and Representative Paul to share district priorities.

- Director Coffey thanked the speakers during public comment for their thoughtful comments. He noted these are difficult decisions with numbers being dramatically different across the country. He said that February is Black History Month and he wants to honor Black History month and the Black Lives Matter issues. He shared that he participated in a seminar offered by a Garfield High School ethnic studies teacher related to bringing black history to their K-12 classrooms.
- Director Otos said the board participates in a self-evaluation every two years and it is now time to do so again.

Superintendent's Report

School Board Recognition: Superintendent Vivanco shared videos and cards presented by several schools with the board. Collectively the district appreciates the hard work the board does.

Mount Baker Middle School: Host School: Principal Jennifer Harlan and her staff presented information on the remote learning and student supports at Mount Baker including learning strategies and engagement, equity team focus, mental health supports and music engagement. The leadership students then shared a board appreciation video.

Reopening Update: B. Nutting/I. Vivanco Superintendent Vivanco shared the current plans are to return students in K-1 on February 8, understanding this remains contingent on acceptable numbers from the DOH. Governor Inslee shared the threshold for the 1B1 group is now 60 years and older. There is a lot of coordination in getting everything secure and safe, and plans are in place for students who will be at school and those who choose to remain learning from home. Mr. Nutting reminded all that parents may elect to have their children remain in a remote platform as we move forward. Elementary staff are calling families who have not indicated a preference on the survey. Also, per CDC guidelines, at-risk staff may continue to work remotely. Mr. Nutting explained the at-risk definition used by the district is from the CDC. Employees can complete a form indicating their status and remain working remotely if they feel they should.

Levy Facts-Video: I. Vivanco Dr. Vivanco shared the factual video with information about the proposed levy replacements.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business

Request to Surplus Books from Cascade Commons Library: Superintendent Vivanco shared this request was received by the Cascade Commons Library and the request meets criteria for surplus.

Upon motion by Director Coffey, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to allow surplus of obsolete and damaged books and materials from the Cascade Commons Library.

Donations: Superintendent Vivanco shared this donation was offered by Molina Healthcare, who want to support the high school Mariachi program while encourage use of face masks.

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board accepted the generous donation from Molina Healthcare in the amount of \$500 to supply face masks to the Mariachi Band student participants.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.


Student Comments

- Student Grechishkin said she is grateful for the experience of serving on the school board. It is eye opening and interesting to learn how policy is put into action. She expressed her thanks to the Mount Baker team and Ms. Brannman for their reports. She commented that while mental health can be a challenge, so can returning to school. She personally has worry about returning to in-person learning. She does not want to expose her family or coworkers and would rather lose her senior year than make others sick.
- Student Rochelle commented he agrees with Ms. Grechishkin about sacrificing his senior year for the benefit of all. He also thanked everyone for allowing him to serve on the board and he appreciated the Mount Baker information.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board